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Roxbury, Oct. 23, 1873.

Dear Fanny:

Your letter of the 3d instant reached us on Tuesday, a day, or two behind the usual time. In it you give the gratifying information that you were just on the eve of starting for the Vienna Exposition, and by this time (if all went well with you, as I trust it did) must have made the trip, and returned to the dear ones at Heidelberg. You are warranted in claiming that Harry is one of the kindest and most considerate of husbands; and in giving you the opportunity to see the finest display of the world's mechanical skill and artistic proficiency ever made, though he could not accompany you on account of his fatherly care for the little ones, he deserves to be freshly complimented. Doubtless you will apprise us, in due time, how in your judgment the Vienna compared with the marvellous Paris Exposition

in 1867. I never supposed that the latter would ever be equalled in extent or attractiveness in my day; but, from all accounts, that at Vienna must bear the palm, though probably not in every particular. It is needless to say that I heartily wish I had been with you. I am curious to hear how you got along with your two companions, without a male escort.

The last photograph of darling Harold, taken without hat or overcoat, makes him looks younger than the other, and recalls his features as he left us. He is a fine looking boy, and you may be proud of all your children in the matter of good looks. Their photographs are examined with great interest and pleasure by all who call upon us. You and yours seem to be always in the remembrance of our friends and acquaintance, and there is no end to their inquiries about you all on their part.

There is still great stringency in the money market, all the result of a panic, and not of any real depreciation of property. It will soon pass away, and speculation and enterprise will take a fresh start.

Do not allow your German friends to be deceived in their low estimate of our government and public affairs; for, in spite of the many instances of personal rascality and untrustworthiness, there is no comparison between our country ~~than~~ and any other as it respects the blessings of liberty, exemption from legalized exactions, and a just administration of the laws. All our misdeeds are not only ferreted out and exposed, but in most cases greatly exaggerated. And the magnitude of the United States is apt to be forgotten, with its numberless and ever-changing office-holders.

Compliments and kisses for Harry and the darlings. Your loving Father